

**Update on Whispering Maples Memorial Gardens, Inc. (Whispering Maples)
June 16, 2016**

With the assistance of the Office of the New York State Attorney General, the court appointed state receivership of Whispering Maples has been extended until at least September 2016. This extension allows a thoughtful and thorough transition of the mausoleums to town control and will allow for the detailed application for funds for the restoration of these facilities.

We thank the Receiver, Ms. Connie Goedert, for her dedication to this effort and for serving our communities without pay.

Ms. Goedert continues to encourage family members with ownership interest in the mausoleums to contact the cemetery offices to provide updated contact information. This will be a valuable tool in our efforts to keep you informed of ongoing developments at the mausoleum properties. You may contact the office at 518-594-7500. Also, please remember to start removing any personal items from the mausoleums in advance of construction activities. We want to be sure that your keepsakes are protected by your family.

The preliminary structural engineer's report of necessary repairs has been completed. It is now being reviewed in preparation for the repair bids. This process is being completed along with ongoing dialogue between representatives in Albany and the towns of Plattsburgh and Ellenburg. Town officials and our consultants have been at the forefront of this effort.

Once this process is completed, a formal application will be submitted to the state to cover the costs of the repairs and restoration of the mausoleums.

Additionally, the proposed new organizational documents for town control of the Whispering Maples facilities are being drafted and reviewed. Ms. Goedert is hard at work overseeing the facilities, finances, and recreating records and files to assist the town in our management.

We continue to interact with state officials at the State Cemetery Board, the Governor's Office, Senate and Assembly to address the financial concerns at Whispering Maples. In addition to the \$300,000 in repair funds already allocated, Senator Little and Assemblywoman Duprey have also introduced legislation to prohibit the future construction of any similar facility. While this prohibition does not address our immediate concerns, this effort comes out of our recent public meeting where it was stated that such a government supervised failure should not be allowed to happen again. We appreciate the support and efforts of our Albany legislators.

There are a number of moving parts in this process and the bidding process alone will take some time to complete. In the meantime, if there are issues at the facilities, please be sure to reach out to Ms. Goedert at the Ellenburg office.

Thank you.

Michael S. Cashman
Supervisor

Town of Plattsburgh | 151 Banker Road | Plattsburgh, NY 12901
OFFICE 518.562.6813 | FAX 518.561.6801
WEB www.townofplattsburgh.org